

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A mobile data acquisition device for use in deliveriescourier, express and delivery services for boxing, wares, goods, parcels and letters, said mobile data acquisition device comprising:

a reader (2) for reading machine-readable data apposed to an object to be delivered;

an input system for receiving data identifying a recipient of the object being delivered, said input system being incorporated into a recipient identification reader (3), said recipient identification reader being adapted to read machine-readable recipient identifications;

wherein the recipient identification reader (3) is designed to read articles selected from the group consisting of :

magnetic cards, chip cards, and transponders.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes an input unit (5) to enter a personal identification code wherein the input unit is designed to secure said machine-readable recipient

identification such that said machine-readable recipient identification is presented only if a valid personal identification code is provided.

4. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes a data processing unit to execute electronic payments.

5. (Currently Amended) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes a mobile radio unit and wherein the mobile radio unit is designed to communicate the machine-readable identification with a central database.

6. (Currently Amended) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes a site-locating unit and wherein the site-locating unit is designed to retain the site of delivery.

7. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes a data memory adapted to store identification-specific data.

8. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes a mechanical/electrical interface to set up communication with a data exchange station and/or a remote control.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes an input unit (5) to enter said input system is further adapted to receive biometric information from the recipient, wherein the input unit (5) is designed to secure said machine-readable recipient identification such that said machine-readable recipient identification is presented only if valid biometric information from the recipient is provided.

11. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for storing said machine-readable recipient identification read via said recipient identification reader.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for delivering an object to an individual, comprising the steps of:

providing a mobile data acquisition device, said mobile data acquisition device having a reader (2) and an input system, said reader being adapted to read machine-readable data apposed to the object to be delivered, said input system receiving data identifying a recipient of the object being delivered, wherein the input system is incorporated into a recipient identification reader (3) that is adapted to read machine-readable recipient identifications;

acquiring information on the object being delivered via the reader (2);

acquiring recipient identification information on the recipient via the recipient identification reader, said step of acquiring recipient identification information includes reading a machine readable object with the recipient identification reader;

storing said recipient identification information;
acquiring information on an addressee of the package; and,
confirming whether the recipient is the addressee by comparison of the
information on the addressee of the package and the recipient identification
information.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein said mobile
data acquisition device further includes an input unit (5) for entering a personal
identification code, and wherein the step of acquiring recipient identification
information includes a further step of inputting a personal identification code into the
input unit.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, further including
acquiring biometric information from the recipient.

15-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A mobile data acquisition device for use in the delivery
of objects, said mobile data acquisition device comprising:

a reader for reading machine-readable data apposed to an object to be
delivered; and

an input system for receiving data identifying a recipient of the object being

delivered, said input system being incorporated into a recipient identification reader, said recipient identification reader being adapted to read previously stored and authenticated machine-readable identification data from an identification article.

20. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device of claim 19 wherein the machine-readable identification data is text data.

21. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device of claim 19 wherein the identification article is a legally valid form of identification.

22. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device of claim 19 wherein the input system further includes a pressure-sensitive display to record a recipient's signature.

23. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device of claim 19 further including a numeric input unit.

24. (Previously Presented) The mobile data acquisition device of claim 19 wherein the recipient identification reader is designed to read identification articles selected from a group consisting of: credit cards, ID chip cards, drivers licenses, personal identifications with digital signatures and transponders.

25. (New) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device is designed to allow identification of the recipient during the delivery of the

object to be delivered.

26. (New) The mobile data acquisition device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the data memory is further adapted to store a site of delivery.